



## 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Kofi Annan Road Safety Award 2023

Marrakech, Morocco, September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### - PRESS RELEASE -

The Kingdom of Morocco hosts the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Kofi ANNAN road safety award in Marrakech on September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This edition, which is held under the theme “*Digital Transformation and Innovations for Safer Roads*”, is jointly organized by the Ministry of Transport and Logistics of Morocco, the National Road Safety Agency (NARSA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Road Safety and the Kofi ANNAN Foundation.

Kofi Annan Road Safety Award 2023” is attended by high-level political leaders, senior road safety officials, and experts from the host country, the Kingdom of Morocco, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Road Safety, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), and representatives from various organizations and agencies from other African countries.

The main objective of the Kofi Annan Road Safety Award is to motivate key stakeholders – Governments, the private sector and civil society organizations – to develop and implement innovative and exceptional initiatives to save lives on African roads. This goal is aligned with the objective set by the United Nations General Assembly to reduce deaths and serious injuries linked to road accidents worldwide by 2030. This Objective is taken up by the African strategic orientations for the Decade of Action on Road Safety 2021-2030, adopted by the African Union in 2021. The award also aims to recognize Kofi Annan’s significant contributions to road safety and to inspire leadership and mobilize influential individuals to address the road safety crisis, particularly in Africa.

***"On this occasion, I express my deep gratitude for the Kofi Annan Road Safety Award, which honors and values governments, the private sector, civil society, organizations and individuals. I also salute the remarkable work of all the bodies and organizations that have implemented serious measures and actions to achieve the objectives of the Second United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety for the years 2021-2030, which aims to halve the number of road deaths by 2023,"*** says Morocco's Minister of Transport and Logistics, Mr Mohamed Abdeljalil.

***"Kofi Annan’s vision and determination to raise awareness of this terrible hidden pandemic paved the way for significant advancements in road safety policies and initiatives. His legacy serves as a testament to what can be achieved through strong leadership for positive change on a global scale. The Kofi Annan Road Safety Award is a crucial platform to recognize and celebrate those who are implementing innovative solutions to address this crisis in the most affected region,"*** declares Mr. Jean Todt, the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Road Safety.

***"African countries need to step up their road safety efforts considerably to stand any chance of halving road deaths by 2030. They need to strengthen their road safety management capacity and use innovative technologies to significantly reduce road deaths on the continent. That is why it is important to recognize African governments and organisations that distinguish themselves through outstanding practices in road safety"*** explains Mr. Antonio Pedro, the Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa.

The award recognizes governments, private sector, civil society, other organizations, as well as individuals who have made outstanding contributions to road safety in Africa. The second edition of the award specifically highly praises governments that have implemented serious measures and actions to achieve the objectives of the second UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030, aiming to halve road deaths by 2030.

Selection criteria for the award winners includes several basics of the Global and Regional Action Plans on Road Safety, such as Road Safety Management, Innovation in road safety fields, reliable data management system,



effective communication efforts for the prevention of collisions due to road accidents, National funding for road safety.

The 2nd edition of Kofi Annan Road Safety Awards are attributed to the winners of the different categories:

- Innovation, particularly in digitalization: Ministry of Transports – Côte d'Ivoire;
- Road safety management: Ministry of Public Works and Transport – Kingdom of Eswatini;
- Data management: Ministry of Living Environment and Transport, responsible for Sustainable Development – Republic of Benin;
- Safer vehicles: Ministry of Infrastructure – Republic of Rwanda;
- Public transportation/Modal shift: Ministry of Transport and Logistics – Republic of Ethiopia;
- Communication (Private sector, NGOs, Academia, Ministry of Transports, CEO – SECURROUTE – Cameroun;
- Road Safety / Honor Award: NARSA – Morocco.

Many sessions and workshops are held during this event dealing with topics such as building a digital approach, setting the technical, regulatory and financial environment and experiences across Africa in the use of digitalization and the management of road safety and action and work plan of African Road safety observatory.